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BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Application of Pacific Gas and Electric Company for Compliance Review of Utility Owned Generation Operations, Electric Energy Resource Recovery Account Entries, Contract Administration, Economic Dispatch of Electric Resources, Utility Owned Generation Fuel Procurement, Diablo Canyon Seismic Studies Balancing Account, and Other Activities for the Period January 1 through December 31, 2015 (U39E).

Application 16-02-019
(Filed February 29, 2016)

**E-MAIL RULING GRANTING CONTINUANCE
OF EVIDENTIARY HEARING**

Dated October 14, 2016, at San Francisco, California.

/s/ KELLY A. HYMES

Kelly A. Hymes
Administrative Law Judge

From: Hymes, Kelly A.

Sent: Friday, October 14, 2016 3:01 PM

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Cc: ALJ_Support ID; ALJ Docket Office; ALJ Process

Subject: A.16-02-019 Email Ruling Granting Continuance of October 19 and 20, 2016 Evidentiary Hearing

This Email Ruling grants the request of the Office of Ratepayer Advocates (ORA) and Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) for a continuance of the October 19-20, 2016 evidentiary hearing in Application 16-02-019, until ORA and PG&E are able to conduct a settlement conference and file a motion for approval of a settlement.

On Friday, October 14, 2016, ORA and PG&E informed the Administrative Law Judge that the two parties had reached a settlement in principle regarding PG&E's 2015 Energy Resource Recovery Account Compliance Application 16-02-019. As a result of the settlement in principle, ORA and PG&E request a continuance of the evidentiary hearing scheduled for October 19-20, 2016, contending that only ORA and PG&E had requested cross-examination of witnesses at the hearing. Pursuant to Commission Rules of Practice and Procedure, Rule 12.1, ORA and PG&E plan to conduct a settlement conference and, subsequently, file a motion for approval of a settlement. ORA and PG&E state that the motion for approval of a settlement will include a request to cancel hearings.

The Commission has acknowledged a public policy favoring the settlement of disputes to avoid costly and protracted litigation (*see Decision 88-12-083*). Furthermore, no party other than ORA and PG&E has requested to present or cross-examine witnesses during the evidentiary hearing. It is, therefore, reasonable to grant a continuance of the hearing scheduled for October 19-20, 2016, until such time ORA and PG&E can conduct a settlement conference and file a motion for approval of a settlement. To ensure the parties proceed in a timely fashion, the hearing shall be continued to November 21, 2016.

IT IS RULED that the October 19-20, 2016 Evidentiary Hearing in Application 16-02-019 is hereby continued until November 21, 2016.

The Docket Office shall formally file this Email Ruling.

Kelly A. Hymes

Administrative Law Judge
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